MARKED UP CLAIMS

21. A process for coupling aromatic monomers, which comprises coupling in a reaction mixture an aromatic monomer having at least one boron-derivative functional group selected from the group consisting of a boronic acid group, a boronic ester group and a [boraine] borane group, and an aromatic monomer having at least one [ractive] reactive halide functional group; wherein the reaction mixture comprises a catalytic amount of a catalyst suitable for catalysing the coupling of the aromatic monomers, and an organic base including a tetraalkylammonium entity in an amount sufficient to convert the at least one boron-derivative functional group into $-BX_3^-$ anionic group(s), wherein X is independently selected from the group consisting of F and OH.

22. A process for coupling aromatic monomers, which comprises preparing under non-coupling conditions an organic cation salt of an aromatic boronate monomer by the reaction of an aromatic monomer having at least one boron-derivative functional group with an organic base including a tetraalkylammonium entity in an amount sufficient to convert the at least one boron-derivative functional group into boronate anionic group(s) ($-B(X)_3^-$) wherein X is independently selected from the group consisting of F and OH, and then coupling the organic cation salt of the aromatic boronate monomer with an aromatic monomer having at least one reactive halide functional group [in a reaction mixture] in the presence of a catalyst suitable for catalysing the coupling by elimination of a halide functional group and a boronate anionic group.

24. A process according to claim 21 [23], wherein at least 1.5 equivalents of said organic base per boron-derivative functional group is provided in the reaction mixture.

25. A process according to claim 21 [23], wherein at least two equivalents of said organic base per boron-derivative functional group is provided in the reaction mixture.

27. A process according to claim 21 or 22, wherein the organic base comprises R' R" R"' R"" NOH, wherein R' is a C_1 - C_6 alkyl group, and R", R"' and R"" are each independently hydrogen atoms or C_1 - C_6 alkyl groups.